

WASHINGTON D.C. — Today, Rep. Walz delivered remarks at the U.S. – Iraq Business and Investment Conference. He applauded the partnership between the Iraqi government and U.S. entrepreneurs for working toward a more stable, more prosperous future for Iraq.

“Investment and entrepreneurship is critically important to Iraq’s future,” said Walz. “There is a tremendous amount of opportunity for U.S. businesses to take part in building a better future for Iraqis and creating jobs and prosperity here at home. We should all remember that this promise and opportunity would not be possible without the brave men and women and their families who have scarified so much.”

One of the conference’s participants from Minnesota, Ishraf Ahmad, Manager of Operations for Foreign Real Estate Consultants LLC, stated, “I think this week’s conference marks a significant step forward in Iraq’s progress towards a brighter future. For companies like mine, it is absolutely vital to strengthen investment and business ties between the U.S. and Iraq, and I think we’ve reached a point where the security and economic conditions in Iraq make investment possible. I’m very excited about the future and look forward to investing in the mutual prosperity of Iraq, the U.S., and the state of Minnesota.”

Foreign Real Estate Consultants LLC provides Iraqi real estate brokerage services consulting to individual and corporate buyers and sellers. The company performs these services for those both inside and outside of Iraq.

The U.S. –Iraq Business and Investment Conference offers U.S. companies the opportunity to learn about business and trade opportunities in Iraq’s market of 28 million people and to promote current investment and business opportunities in Iraq; provide matchmaking opportunities for U.S. and Iraqi firms; address the challenges to doing business in Iraq; and facilitate meetings between U.S. firms and Iraqi ministers and senior government officials.

Yesterday, Secretaries Clinton and Locke addressed the conference, along with Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki. Today, Congressman Walz and Senator Lindsey Graham addressed the conference.